Extradition Treaty

3774. SHRI VIJAY GOEL:
SHRI ILIYAS AZMI:
SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries with whom India has signed extradition treaty and other related agreements to put an end to terrorist activities and its total elimination;

(b) the details of treaties/agreements, country-wise and their impact so far in removal of terrorism; and

(c) the names of the countries with whom India is going to sign extradition treaty in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). Extradition treaties exist with Canada, UK, Netherlands, Belgium, Nepal, Bhutan and USA. Mutual legal assistance treaties have been signed with UK, Canada, Turkey and Switzerland. The agreement with Russian Federation, Bulgaria, Egypt and Romania are aimed at combating international terrorism, organised crime, international illegal economic activities and illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Extradition arrangements also exist with Sri Lank, Thailand, Switzerland, Sweden, Australia, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Fiji and Tanzania. Existence of these treaties/agreements/ arrangements has been conducive to combating terrorism and other related crimes.

(c) At present the efforts are being made by the Government to conclude extradition treaties with Hong Kong, Germany, UAE and France while the extradition with USA is currently under renegotiation.

Development of Unani System Medicine

3775. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to improve the position and development of Unani System of Medicine in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (c). To promote the Indian System of Medicine & Homeopathy, the Govt. of India have set up a separate department of Indian System of Medicine & Homeopathy (ISM & H) in March, 1995. In order to promote and propagate Unani System of Medicine. Government have initiated concrete steps viz. allocation of more funds for setting National Institute of Unani Medicine, for improving facilities for education and research activities. Further the Unani Pharmacopeia Committee is also engaged in preparing a formulary and Pharmacopeia for quality control of Unani drugs. Besides this, the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine, an autonomous Organisations under the department of ISM & H is also engaged in doing research and development activities in Unani System of Medicine.

[English]

Diversion of Water from Cauveri Basin to Krishna Basin

3776. SHRI P. KODANDARAMAIAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand for diverting water of hemavathi in Cauveri Basin to Sira Taluk in Krishna Basin; and

(b) If so, the reaction of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No such proposal has been received in the Central Water Commission.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Complaints on Issue of Passports

3777. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether satisfactory action is not taken on the complaints of the people with regard to issuing of passport:

(b) the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have fixed responsibility on any officers for not making proper solution to the complaints received during the last two years; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). No, Sir. On the contrary, complaints received from members of the public are taken seriously by the Passport Officers who are under strict instructions to treat these with great sense of urgency and to take necessary action

for their redressal. Moreover, every Passport Officer meets the public daily in order to hear complaints personally following which necessary follow-up action is taken in the matter. Apart from this, an officer of the CPV Division at Deputy Secretary level also meets the public daily to resolve problems. Written complaints addressed to the Chief Passport Officer received from various quarters are also taken up with concerned Passport Offices for their redressal.

(c) and (d). Since no specific instance has come to the notice of the Ministry during the last two years where an officer was found wanting in the discharge of his duties/ responsibilities specifically relating to handling of complaints and grievances of the public, the question of fixing responsibilities does not arise.

[English]

Expenditure on Major Ports

3778. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of provisions made for development and modernisation of major ports of the country during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of expenses incurred thereon uptill March 31, 1996;

(c) whether less expenses have been incurred for the development and modernisation of Kandla in comparison to Visakhapatnam and Paradeep ports; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) Outlays aggregating to Rs. 2858.53 crores have been provided for development and modernisation of major ports in the country during the five Annual Plans of 1992-93 to 1996-97.

(b) Expenditure of about Rs. 1370 crores has been incurred by Major Ports during 8th plan upto 31.3.1996.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The lesser expenditure at Kandia Port is due to lesser outlays provided depending on requirement of schemes and actual utilisation of outlays provided based on pace of implementation of schemes as compared to Visakhapatnam and Paradeep Ports.

Erosion of Ganges in West Bengal

3779. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the recent erosion of Ganges in West Bengal specially in Nabadwip and Bhagwan Gola;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to tackle the situation; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government of West Bengal has taken up implementation of one major anti-erosion scheme at Bhagwan Gola in the Murshidabad district at an estimated cost of Rs. 82 lakhs. For Nabadwip, no such scheme has so far been referred to the Centre for appraisal.

Ill Effects of Eximer Laser Eye Surgery

3780. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the use of eximer laser for eye surgery for removal of spectacles can cause irreparable damage to the eyes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to educate people about the possible hazards of the technique?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[Translation]

CBI Report on Irregularities in Open School

3781. SHRI RAMTAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI report on irregularities committed in open school case, has been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE